

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-10 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-14

USIA-04 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAM-01 DRC-01 /060 W

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R 081450Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0717

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 4346

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PO

SUBJ: LAJES NEGOTIATIONS

SUMMARY: EXPRESSO ARTICLE SAYS SEARCH FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT THROUGH LAJES NEGOTIATIONS HAS MOVED OFF DEAD CENTER. ARTICLE NOTES THAT IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT HAVE PRIVATELY ADVOCATED A NON-ALIGNED POSITION. END SUMMARY.

1. OCT. 5 EXPRESSO, REPORTING ON THE TRIP TO US BY FINANCE MINISTER SILVA LOPES, NOTES THAT FORMIN SOARES HAD FORMALLY DENIED THAT ARAB COUNTRIES OFFERED LARGE SUMS OF MONEY IN EXCHANGE FOR DENYING LAJES TO AMERICANS. ARTICLE POINTS OUT REPORTS OF A STOPPAGE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE TAKEN ON A CERTAIN CONSISTENCY. ALTHOUGH NOT RELATED TO AN ARAB OFFER, POSTPONEMENTS OF TWO NEGOTIATING SESSION BY THE GOP AND "THE CHANGES IN THE BALANCE OF POWER RESULTING FROM THE EVENTS OF LAST WEEKEND AND THE POSITION OF IMPORTANT ELEMENTS IN THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT (AFM), COMING OUT IN PRIVATE FOR THE ADOPTION BY PORTUGAL OF A NON-ALIGNED FOREIGN POLICY, "SUGGESTED A CONSIDERABLY DELAY IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

2. ARTICLE GOES ON TO STATE, HOWEVER, THAT SILVA LOPES HAD MOVED THE NEGOTIATIONS AHEAD, MENTIONING THAT HE WAS SEEKING TO OBTAIN FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE MF AND FROM BUSINESS AS WELL AS FROM OFFICIAL AMERICAN SOURCES.

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3. COMMENT: SUGGESTION THAT THERE ARE IMPORTANT AFM MEMBERS WHO
OPPOSE LAJES HAS BEEN HEARD BEFORE. EMBASSY HAS NOT, HOWEVER,
BEEN ABLE TO DATE TO PIN DOWN SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE
ASSOCIATED WITH THIS POINT OF VIEW, ALTHOUGH AS PREVIOUSLY,
REPORTED, PORTUGUESE UN AMBASSADOR VEIGA SIMAO HAS INDIRECTLY
SUGGESTED THAT PRIME MINISTER VASCO GONCALVES IS ONE OF
THEM.
SCOTT

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To: STATE
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